

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/941,666
Amendment dated **September 8, 2003**
Reply to OA of **June 18, 2003**

REMARKS

Claims 2-20 are pending in this application. Claims 6-19 stand withdrawn from consideration in this application. The applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **June 18, 2003**.

Claims 2-5 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Igarashi et al. (U.S. 5,882,755).

Igarashi does not disclose that the coating excluding the cationic polymer is formed, and then, the cationic polymer is separately impregnated thereon. In col. 17, lines 60 to 64, Igarashi discloses that ink-receiving layers A to G used in the Igarashi's invention were composed of the coating compositions disclosed at col. 17, line 65 to col. 19, line 20. Example A disclosed here does not include a cationic polymer in the ink receiving layer, and Examples B to G disclosed here have receiving layers prepared by the coating compositions together with including cationic polymers (col. 17, line 60 to col. 19, line 20). Igarashi discloses coating compositions including cationic polymers, but does not disclose, suggest nor teach to form the coat compositions excluding the cationic polymers, and then, to impregnate the cationic polymer separately thereon.

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According to the present invention, the cationic organic material is excluded from the coating liquid and separately impregnated on the dried coating liquid. Examples 1-5 of the present application, which were prepared by using a coating liquid excluding a cationic polymer, have an excellent water resistance, compared with Comparative examples, which were prepared by using a coating liquid including a cationic polymer (page 16, lines 22-23, and page 20, lines 12-13). In claim 20 of the present application, the term "wherein the water-soluble cationic organic material is not present in the binder" distinguishes the present invention from Igarashi, since the cationic organic material is separately impregnated after drying the coating liquid including the binder, so that the cationic organic material is not mixed with the binder. Reconsideration of the rejection in view of the remarks is respectfully requested.

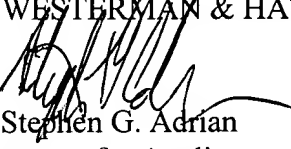
If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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